

# U.S. Census Bureau News

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## Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products December 2016

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary December steel imports were \$1.9 billion (2.4 million metric tons) compared to the preliminary November totals of \$1.9 billion (2.5 million metric tons).

The December change in steel imports based on metric tonnage reflected decreases primarily in blooms, billets and slabs. Increases occurred in oil country goods; sheets and hot dipped galvanized strip; and sheets and all other metal coated strip. Decreases occurred primarily with Canada, Mexico, and Russia. Increases occurred primarily with Taiwan, South Africa, and Netherlands.

The year to date final statistics through November 2016 showed steel imports of 27.5 million metric tons compared with 33.0 million metric tons through November 2015. The largest commodity decreases occurred primarily in oil country goods. Increases occurred primarily in tin plate, reinforcing bars, and wire rods. The largest country decreases occurred primarily with China. Increases occurred primarily with Mexico, Belgium, and Sweden.

### Notes:

**The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.**

*Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details, visit our web site at [www.census.gov/trade](http://www.census.gov/trade). On the website, you can access product by country and country by product tables.*

*The next release is February 24, 2017.*